

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Mobility Coalition****Federal Tax ID: 01-0704433****Project Title:**

## Alaska Mobility Coalition - Fuel Reimbursement

**State Funding Requested: \$ 100,000**  
One-Time Need**House District: Anchorage Areawide (17-32)****Brief Project Description:**

Funds would offset the high cost of fuel local transit providers have incurred.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$100,000**

<u>Funding Secured</u>	
<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>

<u>Other Pending Requests</u>	
<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>

<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>

There is no other funding needed

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Alaska Mobility Coalition is a private, non-profit membership organization that represents transit providers and advocates in Alaska. We represent thirty five member organizations from Bethel to Ketchikan and our members provide 6.5 million rides to Alaskans to get to work, school and medical appointments.

The capital support from the Alaska legislature would allow us to reimburse public, non-profit, and community transit providers around the state (including Anchorage) for the high cost of fuel to operate their bus systems. The funding would also help with administrative and accounting costs associated with operating a statewide fuel reimbursement program.

**Project Timeline:**

If funds are granted, fuel reimbursements would go to local providers immediately.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Alaska Mobility Coalition

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: David Levy, Executive Director

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☐ Yes ☒ No



# *Alaska Mobility Coalition*

*Achieving mobility through community appropriate transportation services*

2008

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Alaska Mobility Coalition (AMC) is a statewide coalition of transit advocates and providers in the state. The Coalition's goals are to ensure:

- Safe and cost-effective rides for seniors, persons with disabilities, youth and low income Alaskans;
- Stable funding for existing community transportation systems; and
- Support the development of sustainable community transportation systems in communities that do not have any now.

Transit members provide over 6 million rides per year for Alaskans to get to work, school, shopping and medical appointments. Without rides provided by AMC members, many Alaskans would not be able to work or participate in their community.

### **AMC's Recommendations to Support Community Transportation**

#### **1. Fuel Cost Reimbursement for Communities**

Rising fuel costs are putting all Alaskan transportation systems into financial peril, forcing systems to cut back on hours, levels of service and raise fees beyond which low income riders can support. **AMC, recommends as part of a statewide plan to assist communities with high energy costs that the Alaska Legislature include a provision to support the fuel costs for local transit providers, up to 25% of their total fuel budget (but no more than \$50,000 per recognized community transportation provider for a maximum of \$500,000 in FY09)**

#### **2. State Funding Match for Community Transportation Systems**

Alaska is one of only two states in the country that do not provide state funds for transit services. Like federal highway funds, federal transit funds require a percentage of matching funds. Alaska's general fund "match" would bring in the maximum possible federal transit funding into the state. For every dollar of state money provided for transit another four dollars in generated from federal funds. **AMC proposes the addition of \$2.5 million in the general operating budget in FY09 for statewide transit programs.** In order to use state resources efficiency, we would recommend an additional 10% local match requirement for the state transit funds.